

**30 JANUARY 2023**

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## **UPDATE ON THE SOUTH EAST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE**

### **REPORT OF THE INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4**

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##### **Reasons for Report**

1. To update the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (the CJC) Board on the outstanding technical matters and their resolution.
2. To deal with the request from Welsh Government (WG) for the nomination of a Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) administrator for the CJC.
3. To set out the approach to the statutory duties of the CJC over the transition period, including the immediate requirement in respect of Section 6 of The Environment (Wales) Act 2016

##### **Background**

4. Building on the report the CJC Board received at its November 2022 meeting, the reports to Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (CCRCD) Regional Cabinet in September and December 2021 broadly outlined the key features and issues associated with the development of the CJC, following their introduction by Welsh Government in 2021.
5. These taxation issues and consequential amendments have been a real barrier to lift and shift, which has meant ultimately that moving beyond phase 1 of the original transition plan – initial set up of the CJC – has been difficult. As such, to date, the CJC has operated only on a ‘bare minimum’ basis in order to avoid any prospect of financial or policy detriment.
6. The proposed routes for dealing with the taxation issues and consequential amendments from the Welsh Government are:
  - VAT – a section 33 order to be laid before parliament in order to give CJC’s parity in VAT terms with other public sector bodies;
  - consequential amendments (see paragraph 10 for details) – a Section 150 Order to the Government of Wales Act to be laid before parliament in order to effect primary legislation to address the outstanding issues.

### Update on VAT

7. The Value Added Tax (Refund of Tax) Order 2023 has been made on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023 which adds the CJC as a body specified for the purposes of section 33 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994. This Order is due to come into force on the **09 February 2023**.
8. Once implemented, this change removes one of the significant barriers to lift and shift and is a positive outcome for the development of the CJC model, leaving the consequential amendments still to be dealt with.
9. Once the legislation comes into force, the CJC will be required to determine the best route to reclaim VAT. There are two options available to the CJC: full registration and reclaiming VAT using the VAT126 form process. Further work is being undertaken to determine the most suitable approach for the CJC and this will be brought to the CJC Board for a decision in the near future.

### Update on Consequential Amendments

10. The consequential amendments are to be made to the following legislation:
  - the Local Government Pensions Scheme Regulations 2013;
  - the National Loans Act 1968 and the Public Works Loans Board;
  - the Redundancy Payments (Continuity of Employment in Local Government etc.) (Modifications) Order 1999;
  - Section 119 of the Local Government Act 1972;
  - Income Tax Act 2007;
  - Corporation Tax Act 2010;
  - Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992.
11. In addition to this, there remains the fundamental question, which underlines many of the above, is confirmation of the CJC's formal Financial Status?
12. In February 2022, the path to resolve these key questions was stated as being a Section 150 order to the Government of Wales Act. Under this approach, the First Minister proposes constitutional amendments to the Secretary of State for Wales to the Government of Wales Act. These amendments are, once agreed, taken through parliament to place them on the statute books and to become law.
13. In November 2022, we were informed of the potential to 'fast-track' the CJC amendments and from recent informal correspondence with officials, this fast tracking has commenced, with the potential that the above consequential amendments (at Paragraph 10) could be resolved as early as the end of this financial year i.e., March 2023.
14. This position means that if these amendments are resolved, moving into the transition phase in April 2023 can become a reality. On that basis there are three key areas that this report deals with in order to prepare for transition:
  - i. nomination of the LGPS administrating authority for the CJC;

- ii. the approach to the statutory duties of the CJC over the transition period;
- iii. the immediate requirement in respect of Section 6 of The Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

Nomination of the LGPS administrating authority for the CJC:

- 15. One of the more technical changes being sought via the S150 Order is to amend the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 to ensure any CJC employees are on a par with other local government employees in terms of access to the Local Government Pension Scheme.
- 16. The 2013 Regulations set out seven different administrating authorities for the LGPS in Wales and each CJC was approached by WG to nominate an administering authority. Of the eight administering authorities across Wales, three are within the CJC region, these are:
  - i. Cardiff Council;
  - ii. Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council;
  - iii. Torfaen County Borough Council.
- 17. Fortunately, work during the early development phase of the CJC explored the various options for the CJC, the Management and Support services paper for the CJC Board in January 2022 recommended Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC to provide HR, Finance and Transactional support to the CJC. In line with that position, it is proposed that Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC is nominated as the LGPS Administering Authority for the CJC.
- 18. This nomination was communicated to Welsh Government on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December, subject to formal consideration and approval by the CJC Board.
- 19. As we develop the Target Operating Model for the CJC, there will be other matters in this area of people and HR that will require discussion and decisions and these will be brought to future CJC Boards.

The Approach to the Statutory Duties of the CJC over the Transition Period

- 20. As members of the Board will be aware, the CJC functions bring with them a very comprehensive set of regulations and public sector duties.
- 21. These requirements will be developed through the Transition Workstreams to ensure that the organisation is fully delivering upon these duties and building its capacity and capability throughout the transition period.
- 22. There are however a number of these duties / requirements that the CJC board will need to consider in the short term. Therefore, further work and updates will come to the meeting of the CJC Board on the 27 March 2023 for the following:
  - i. the CJC's response to its well-being duties in a way that best reflects its ambitions and functions. CJCs may choose to set separate well-being

- objectives and steps and meet those independently of the other public bodies in their area;
- ii. the set up and operation of the CJC Standards Sub-Committee to align with the requirement for the committee to meet by the 05 August 2023;
  - iii. how it will best develop and adopt a code of conduct.
23. Alongside the above, the Monitoring Officer will lead a review of the CJC Standing Orders, adopted at its meeting on 31 January 2022, to step them up and align with the organisations transition planning.

#### The Immediate Requirement in respect of Section 6 of The Environment (Wales) Act 2016

24. The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Public Authorities subject to the Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty) Regulations 2021 amends section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 to include CJCs within the definition of public authority in section 6(9) so that now they are subject to the biodiversity duty set out in section 6. This means that the CJC has to:
- i. prepare and publish a plan setting out what it proposes to do to comply with Section 6(1) of the 2016 Act);
  - ii. publish a report on what it has done to comply with that section 6(1) by 31st December 2022 and every 3 years thereafter; and
  - iii. where it has published a plan, review the plan in the light of each report published and the CJC may revise that plan at any time.

#### The Section 6 Plan

25. The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 does not specify when the CJC must prepare and publish its first plan. Therefore, whilst there is an obligation to prepare a plan, as the CJC is not fully operational, it is proposed that the plan is prepared at a later stage, when the CJC assumes day to day operation of its statutory functions.
26. It is proposed that the development of the Section 6 Plan activities will be incorporated into the CJCs 2023/24 Business Plan activities, alongside how the CJC will prepare for fulfilment of its wider public sector duties. These foundations will increase as the delivery of activity increases throughout the transition period.

#### The Section 6 Report

27. Given the current operational model of the CJC, there are no substantive issues to report. Nevertheless, the duty to publish a report is in effect. Accordingly, a Section 6 Report has been prepared and published on the CJC website. A copy of this report is available at Appendix 1.

28. Statutory guidance from Welsh Ministers states that the reporting duty should not be burdensome and should be proportionate to the size and type of organisation, with regard to the action for biodiversity they can carry out. Therefore, the current report focuses on how the CJC will comply with the Section 6 duty overall, when it assumes its functions.

#### The Section 6 Review

29. It is proposed that the CJC will conduct a review within the first Section 6 Report published after the development of the Section 6 Plan.

#### **Reason for Recommendations**

30. To provide an update on progress of moving towards operating and enacting the SEW CJC, to deal with the request for the CJC to nominate an LGPS administering authority and to ensure the CJC is carrying out and planning for its statutory duties.

#### **Financial Implications**

31. This report provides an update on progress with regard to the outstanding technical matters relating to the regulations as previously reported to the CJC. It sets out the background with regard to the recent developments, legislative amendments still required to be resolved and an update in respect of indicative timescales.
32. The report confirms that the granting of Section 33 Status to CJsCs remains on track with the timetable previously set-out and subject to the successful completion of the process, will become effective from the 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023. This will mean that CJsCs are able to reclaim VAT on their non-business activity from that date and overcome a significant cost barrier to implementing the 'Lift & Shift' model of operation.
33. The CJC will need to put in place the necessary arrangements to recover its VAT from the effective date. It is understood that this can be achieved via the completion and submission of a VAT126 Form to HMRC, a process which is similar to that used by 'Parish Town Councils'. A potential alternative route is to seek HMRC approval for full VAT Registration. However, in order to do so, CJsCs will need to demonstrate to HMRC that they will be undertaking trading activities and/or will generate taxable income. Further work will be carried out to explore these options in detail, but either way, the CJC should be in a position to make a small VAT reclaim in the financial year 2022/23, covering the period 9<sup>th</sup> February to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023. This will represent a reduction to the projected level of expenditure in the current year.
34. There are no direct financial implications arising from the proposed nomination of RCTCBC as the pension administering authority for SEW CJC, which is necessary to progress the section 150 Order process. However, the work completed as part of the Transition Plan will need to ensure that the full financial implications of any proposed staff transfer is fully costed and set out, including

any sums that may become due to as a result of exiting the existing arrangements.

35. The costs of complying with corporate duties set out in this report can be met from within existing resources approved for the current year. The budget setting process for 2023/24 and for future periods will need to ensure sufficient resources are included to comply with all corporate duty requirements, in-line with the target dates for completion and publication.

## **Legal Implications**

36. The Value Added Tax (Refund of Tax) Order 2023 has now been made and is due to come into force on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023 which removes one of the significant barriers to the implementation of the lift and shift model for the CJC. As set out in this report, once the Order comes into force, the CJC will be required to determine the best route to reclaim VAT and a further report shall be brought to the CJC Board for a decision.
37. The remaining amendments required to the legislation as set out in this report are within the legislative competence of the UK Government. With the potential for those amendments to be resolved by April 2023, it is appropriate to start preparations to transition as set out in this report.
38. Following the coming into force of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (Public Authorities subject to the Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty) Regulations 2021, section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 has been amended to include CJs within the definition of public authority so that now they are subject to the biodiversity duty set out in section 6 and the associated duties. As set out in this report, those duties include the preparation and publication of a plan setting out what the CJC proposes to do to comply with section 6(1) of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and the publication of a report on what the CJC has done to comply with the aforementioned section 6(1) by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022. As these are statutory duties, the CJC must comply with them.

## **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

39. In developing the Plan and in considering its endorsement regard should be had, amongst other matters, to:
  - a) the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and the Welsh Language Standards;
  - b) public sector duties under the Equalities Act 2010 (including specific Welsh public sector duties). Pursuant to these legal duties Councils must in making decisions have due regard to the need to (1) eliminate unlawful discrimination, (2) advance equality of opportunity and (3) foster good relations on the basis of protected characteristics. Protected characteristics are: a. age; b. gender reassignment; c. sex; d. race – including ethnic or national origin, colour or nationality; e. disability; f. pregnancy and maternity;

g. marriage and civil partnership; h. sexual orientation; i. religion or belief – including lack of belief, and;

- c) the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 ('the Act') is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act places a 'well-being duty' on public bodies aimed at achieving 7 national well-being goals for Wales - a Wales that is prosperous, resilient, healthier, more equal, has cohesive communities, a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language and is globally responsible. In discharging their respective duties under the Act, each public body listed in the Act (which includes the Councils comprising the CJC) must set and publish wellbeing objectives. These objectives will show how each public body will work to achieve the vision for Wales set out in the national wellbeing goals. When exercising its functions, the CJC Board should consider how the proposed decision will contribute towards meeting the wellbeing objectives set by each Council and in so doing achieve the national wellbeing goals. The wellbeing duty also requires the Councils to act in accordance with a 'sustainable development principle'. This principle requires the Councils to act in a way which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Put simply, this means that CJC Board must take account of the impact of their decisions on people living their lives in Wales in the future. In doing so, they must:

- look to the long term;
- focus on prevention by understanding the root causes of problems;
- deliver an integrated approach to achieving the 7 national well-being goals;
- work in collaboration with others to find shared sustainable solutions;
- involve people from all sections of the community in the decisions which affect them.

40. CJC Board must be satisfied that the proposed decision accords with the principles above. To assist CJC Board to consider the duties under the Act in respect of the decision sought, an assessment has been undertaken, which is attached at Appendix 2.

### **Equality Act 2010**

41. In considering this matter, regard should be had, amongst other matters, to the Councils' duties under the Equality Act 2010. Pursuant to these legal duties the CJC Board must in making decisions have due regard to the need to (1) eliminate unlawful discrimination (2) advance equality of opportunity and (3) foster good relations on the basis of protected characteristics. Protected characteristics are:

- age;
- gender reassignment;
- sex;

- race – including ethnic or national origin, colour or nationality;
- disability.
- pregnancy and maternity;
- marriage and civil partnership;
- sexual orientation;
- religion or belief – including lack of belief.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

42. It is recommended that the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee:

- (1) approves the proposal to nominate Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC as the LGPS Administrating Authority for the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee;
- (2) notes the approach to the statutory duties of the CJC over the transition period as set out in this report;
- (3) with regard to the statutory duties pursuant to section 6 of The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 as set out in paragraphs 24-29 of this report:
  - a. notes the publication of the section 6 biodiversity report and endorses the same;
  - b. notes that the additional duties relating to the preparation of a Section 6 Plan and to conduct a Section 6 Review will be the subject of a further report in due course when those duties become operational.

**Kellie Beirne, Interim Chief Executive**  
**South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee**  
**30 January 2023**

### **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6 The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty Report 2022
- Appendix 2 Well-being of Future Generations Assessment



***Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6***  
***The Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty***  
***Report 2022***

**South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee  
(‘SEWCJC’)**

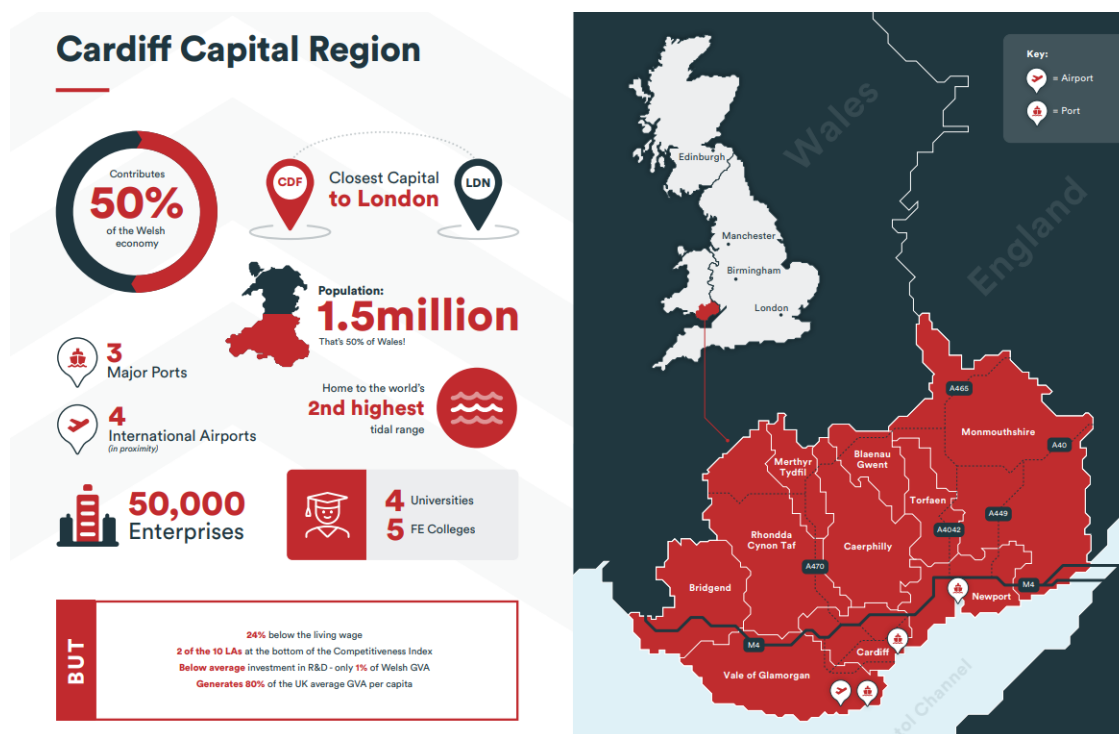
**Introduction and Context**

1. The SEWCJC is a regional organisation made up of the following 11 organisations across South East Wales:
  - Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
  - Bridgend County Borough Council
  - Caerphilly County Borough Council
  - The County Council of the City and County of Cardiff
  - Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
  - Monmouthshire County Council
  - Newport City Council
  - Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council
  - Torfaen County Borough Council
  - The Vale of Glamorgan Council
  - The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority (BBNPA)
2. The members of the SEWCJC are represented by the 10 Leaders of the constituent Local Authorities and a representative of the BBNPA who make up the SEWCJC Board and meet 4 times per year to undertake the business of the organisation.
3. The SEWCJC has a number of functions prescribed to it, these are:
  - i. The preparation of a Regional Transport Plan.
  - ii. The preparation of a Strategic Development Plan
  - iii. and the exercise of Economic Well-being powers.
4. The SEWCJC members are entitled to vote in relation to any matter to be decided by the SEWCJC, except that the BBNPA member may only vote where the matter to be decided is about strategic planning functions.
5. Further information on the SEWCJC and its relationship with the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal (CCRCD) can be found here:

<https://www.cardiffcapitalregion.wales/governance-advisories/governing-bodies/>

6. Papers from the SEWCJC meetings and information on how it is undertaking these duties and responsibilities, including its Annual Business Plan for the year 2022/23 can be found: <https://www.cardiffcapitalregion.wales/about-ccr/governance-papers/>

7. Below is an illustration of the region and the scale of the area covered:



8. It is useful to start by recognising that the work of the SEWCJC at the regional level is on top of the work of the constituent councils, who are subject to the same public sector duties. Therefore, this report will solely focus on the activities of the SEWCJC and may at times refer to the work of constituent councils.
9. The SEWCJC is in its first full year of formal operation and many of the duties were formally conferred upon SEWCJC's from July 2022. Therefore, this report will only cover this period.
10. The activities of the SEWCJC to date have been limited to the bare minimum with a total investment of approx. £100k This is due to some outstanding issues that prevent the SEWCJC from operating without incurring either additional costs, or potential detriment to staff. The activities in the bare minimum approach were:
- Support Services including:

- i. Part time SEWCJC Officer costs – provided by CCR
- ii. Statutory Officer & HR support – provided by Cardiff Council
- iii. Transactional Support – provided by Rhondda Cynon Taff CBC
- b. Insurances
- c. External Audit – provided by Audit Wales

11. As the emphasis for the period has been on the set up of the organisation with the appropriate governance and constitution in place, the majority of activity beyond this has been around raising awareness of the SEWCJC with the constituent councils, including briefing sessions with Cabinet Members and town hall events to help understand how CCRCD delivers now and the SEWCJC will deliver in the future.
12. All of the investments above and any approach as to how the SEWCJC is governed or will operate has been assessed against the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (WFG) at every stage. All papers to the SEWCJC Board have a WFG assessment. As part of these assessments, the SEWCJC has committed to develop its own corporate policies in response to key duties in respect of Equality and Human Rights and Nature and Biodiversity. See the way forward below on how we will aim to achieve this.
13. All of this activity, whilst learning the positive activities that take place within the CCRCD, which will help shape thinking as the SEWCJC develops into a more operational organisation going forward, has also raised awareness in both organisations of The Nature Recovery Action Plan (NRAP) for Wales and its six objectives.

### **Key Outcomes and Issues**

14. As the SEWCJC moves into the next iteration of its existence, delivering the key functions of transport and strategic development planning at the regional level, due consideration will need to be given to how, as an organisation, the SEWCJC can develop an appropriate Section 6 Duty Plan.
15. The transition of the CCRCD into the SEWCJC will likely come over the next 12-24 months, bringing with it a significant portfolio of investments in a wide range of projects and programmes with a view to driving up GVA, increasing opportunity and investment in the region and building a revolving investment fund.
16. CCRCD already has stated aims when it comes to environmental investments, including CO2 emissions, energy usage, pollution and contamination and the management of natural resources and as CCRCD transition activity into the SEWCJC, these aims will embed more and more of this in the SEWCJC planning and delivery models.

17. The foundations for our Section 6 Duty Plan will be incorporated into its 2023/24 Business Plan activities. These foundations will increase as the delivery of activity increases throughout the transition period. Culminating in a section 6 Duty Plan, likely incorporated into a corporate plan, linked to the corporate policy identified above. That can give confidence that the SEWCJC is operating within the framework provided in the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6

### **Next Steps**

18. As the SEWCJC has only been operational for a short time, and limited to a 'bare minimum' model, it's emphasis to date has been to establish its' governance and constitutional framework. As such and given the limited scope of functions / powers available to it, there is limited information to provide in respect of Biodiversity specific actions.
19. As the SEWCJC moves into the next iteration of its existence, delivering the key functions of transport and strategic development planning at the regional level, due consideration will need to be given to how, as an organisation, the SEWCJC can develop an appropriate Section 6 Duty Plan.
20. The transition of the CCRCD into the SEWCJC will develop over the next 12-24 months, bringing with it a significant portfolio of investments in a wide range of projects and programmes with a view to driving up GVA, increasing opportunity and investment in the region and building a revolving investment fund.
21. CCRCD already has stated aims when it comes to environmental investments, including CO2 emissions, energy usage, pollution and contamination and the management of natural resources and as CCRCD transition activity into the SEWCJC, these aims will embed more and more of this in the SEWCJC planning and delivery models.
22. The foundations for our Section 6 Duty Plan will be incorporated into its 2023/24 Business Plan activities. These foundations will increase as the delivery of activity increases throughout the transition period. Culminating in a section 6 Duty Plan, which will be incorporated into a corporate plan, linked to the corporate policy identified above. That can give confidence that the SEWCJC is operating within the framework provided in the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Part 1 - Section 6.

**Review of s6 duty**

23. Given the above, the review is not taking place at this point. A review will take place when the SEWCJC begins delivering its key functions. Prior to this the SEWCJC will develop a s.6 plan, which will also set out the process for regular periodic review of the s.6 duty

# Future Generations Assessment Evaluation

## (includes Equalities and Sustainability Impact Assessments)






<p><b>Name of the Officer completing the evaluation:</b></p> <p>Kellie Beirne</p> <p><b>Phone no:</b> 07826 919286  <b>E-mail:</b> kellie.beirne@cardiff.gov.uk</p>	<p><b>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal:</b></p> <p>To update the South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee (the CJC) Board on the outstanding technical matters and their resolution.</p> <p>To deal with the request from Welsh Government (WG) for the nomination of a Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) administrator for the SEWCJC</p> <p>To set out the approach to the statutory duties of the CJC over the transition period, including the immediate requirement in respect of Section 6 of The Environment (Wales) Act 2016</p>
<p><b>Proposal:</b> CJC – Update</p>	<p><b>Date Future Generations Evaluation form completed:</b> 30 January 2023</p>

**1. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below?** Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal.

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<p><b>A prosperous Wales</b> Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs</p>	<p>The report and appendices set out a progressive approach for driving prosperity within the region as it evolves its functions to embed CJC provisions and regulations.</p>	<p>In order to maintain business continuity and a seamless transition the report is focused on concurrence and the principles of transition and adaptation.</p>
<p><b>A resilient Wales</b> Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)</p>	<p>The central contention of the report is that covid-19, climate and low growth all poses a conundrum about the forward and how some of the behaviours around working together, innovating quickly and rapidly adapting can be maintained as a positive legacy in the new working arrangements.</p>	<p>A CJC will allow more freedom and flexibility and it is envisaged that climate and renewable energy for clean growth will be a key lever in this context. The report highlights the responsibilities of the CJC going forward and how the organisation is setting itself up to be able to manage those duties appropriately and proportionally.</p>
<p><b>A healthier Wales</b></p>	<p>Inclusion is a core theme of the approach and balancing a focus on levelling up the region with other regions in the UK to ensure CCR accesses all of the opportunities available to it – thus supporting</p>	<p>ESG and equality and diversity focus to ensure emphasis on societal and community needs.</p>

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood	not just sectors and industries but communities and people.	CJC will develop its own corporate policies in response to key duties in respect of WFG Act Wales, Equality and Human Rights and Nature and Biodiversity
<b>A Wales of cohesive communities</b> Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	Putting in place a framework for regional cohesion whilst enhancing localism will support delivery of scale projects that make a difference across the geography, in tandem with local policies and levers that ensure citizens can benefit.	Work on the Northern Valleys will continue to be a key theme of CJC work – as will the emphasis on distributed, inclusive and resilient growth. CJC will also pick up the mantle on approval of key mechanisms such as the Regional Investment Plans for the Shared Prosperity Fund.
<b>A globally responsible Wales</b> Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	The principles look outward and focus on the FDI and international opportunities, which are particularly important post-EU exit.	Proposal for eventual radical decentralization of business functions and units currently operating at national level.
<b>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language</b> Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation	The document represents a distinctive regional strategic approach to developing the economy.	CJC will develop its own corporate policies in response to key duties in respect of WFG Act Wales, Equality and Human Rights and Nature and Biodiversity
<b>A more equal Wales</b> People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	The approach focuses on economic inclusion, levelling-up and a mission-driven approach capable of not just tackling economic problems – but societal ones too.	The CJC will begin to produce its own policies for equality and diversity and ensuring these are not just factors in assessing impact – but become central to the task of increasing productive capacity and inclusive growth in the first place.

## 2. How has your proposal embedded and prioritized the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p> <p>Long Term</p>	<p>The CJC is a long-term construct and requires thinking ahead, however in the short-term a 'bare minimum' model is being put in place.</p>	<p>This will be subject to the first phases of work and the transition plan as well as the proposed interim first phase of operation.</p>
 <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p> <p>Collaboration</p>	<p>The principles of the structure recommended situate partnerships and the building of new institutional capacity at the heart of the new framework.</p>	<p>As the regs develop this will be further progressed. As work commences on immediate duties around the Strategic Development and Regional Transport Plans – consultation and engagement processes will be developed accordingly.</p>
 <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p> <p>Involvement</p>	<p>The plan will be backed by a wider comms plan which has already included meeting with the various CCR Partnership groups.</p>	<p>Challenge funds will be another perspective to bring to bear in this context.</p>
 <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p> <p>Prevention</p>	<p>The mission-driven/ challenge-led approach embedded will be a key means of experimenting in the prevention space</p>	<p>At project and programme level – there are a number of options the CJC will be looking at in quick time, regarding regional bus services and transport demand management. There is also work moving forward on Local Area Energy Planning to ensure prevention is prioritized.</p>
 <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p> <p>Integration</p>	<p>The proposed impact assessments will give a comprehensive and ongoing overview of benefits, costs and results. Outcome focused reporting and accountability will be key to this.</p>	<p>This can be further reinforced in the CJC budget setting and when Cabinet and partners have access to greater freedoms and flexibilities and the full 'lift and shift' CJC model.</p>



**3. Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics? Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.**

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	Not relevant in this context since the principles, approach and ways of working apply to all prospective interests and stakeholders	As projects and programmes develop under the CJC, each will be subject to comprehensive assessments against the plans and procedures put in place to protect certain characteristics.	<p>A full ESG agenda and diversity and inclusion reviews into partnerships and groups will help ensure this agenda is embedding in ways of working and the culture that is created.</p> <p>A full training and development programme will also be devised in order to embed and 'bring to life' such considerations – not just as part of project assessments, but in seeking to address such concerns and issues as part and parcel of project business cases that are developed.</p>
Disability	As above	As above	As above.
Gender reassignment	As above	As above	As above.
Marriage or civil partnership	As above	As above	As above.
Pregnancy or maternity	As above	As above	As above.
Race	As above	As above	As above.
Religion or Belief	As above	As above	As above.
Sex	As above	As above	As above.
Sexual Orientation	As above	As above	As above.
Welsh Language	As above	As above	As above.

**4. Safeguarding & Corporate Parenting. Are your proposals going to affect either of these responsibilities?**

	<b>Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting</b>	<b>Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting</b>	<b>What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</b>
Safeguarding	Not directly relevant –however, building the future economy should have a profoundly positive impact on ability to safeguard the future of our residents		This is dependent upon the brief for regional education consortia and whether or not, it is intended to be grouped within CJsCs.
Corporate Parenting	Not directly relevant – however building strength in the economy should create opportunities for all of the young people entrusted in our care and makes a direct contribution to wellbeing.		

**5. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?**

As above.

**6. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?**

As above, the main implications will be in the delivery of this work.

**7. MONITORING: The impacts of this proposal will need to be monitored and reviewed. Please specify the date at which you will evaluate the impact, and where you will report the results of the review.**

<b>The impacts of this proposal will be evaluated on:</b>	Scrutiny by the CJC Board and quarterly performance – Lift and Shift anticipated to take place in 2023/24
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